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Proceedings of the Boston Society of Natural History. Vol. V. No. 25. Sept. 1826. Boston. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Human Physiology: by Robley Dunglison, M.D. LL.D., &c. &c. Eighth Edition, revised, modified and enlarged. 2 vols. Philadelphia, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Experiments upon Digestion: by Francis G. Smith, M.D. &c. &c. Philadelphia, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Mr. Justice laid upon the table a dried fungus from near Juliustown, New Jersey, which, in the dried specimen, has the radii of the *volva* firmly closed over the flattened spherical *capitulum;* but upon being moistened the rays of the volva open widely, like a stellate flower, gradually closing again as the fungus becomes dry; and this may be repeated a great number of times. The specimen agrees very nearly with the description of *Geastrum hygrometricum,* as given by Persoon in his Synopsis Methodica Fungorum (Göttingen, 1801), as referring to *Lycoperdon volvam recolligens* of Schmidel.

A vacancy in the Committee of Finance having occurred by the resignation of Mr. Wagner, Mr. John F. James was appointed a member of that committee.

Stated Meeting, October, 17.

Present, nine members.

Judge KANE, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Letters were read:—

From the Royal Academy of Sciences at Madrid, dated Dec. 3, 1854;—from the Royal Geographical Society of London, dated Whitehall place, June 12, 1856;—and from the Royal Bavarian Academy of Sciences, dated Munich, June 20, 1856, all announcing donations for the library.

The following donations were announced:—

FOR THE LIBRARY.

Memoirs of the Royal Astronomical Society. Vol. XXIV. being the quarto half volume for the session 1854–5. London. 4to.

Monthly Notices of the Royal Astronomical Society, containing Papers and Abstracts of Papers and Reports of the Proceedings of the Society, from Nov. 1854, to June, 1855. Vol. XV. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Royal Geographical Society of London. Vol. XXV. London, 1855. 8vo.

Proceedings of the Royal Geographical Society. Nos. 3, 4. April, May, June, 1856. London. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland. Vol. XVI. Part 2. London, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Society.*

Memorias de la Real Academia de Ciencias de Madrid. Tomo I. 3 Serie. Ciencias Naturales. Parte 3.—Tomo II. 1 Serie. Ciencias Exactas. Tomo I. Parte 1. Madrid, 1853-4. 4to.

Resumen de las Actas de la Academià Real de Ciencias de Madrid, en los años Academicos de 1851 a 1852, y 1852 a 1853, leido por el Secretario perpetuo, Dr. Don Mariano Lorente. Madrid. 8vo.—*From the Academy.*

Smithsonian Contributions to Knowledge. Vol. VIII. Washington, 1856. 4to.—*From the Smithsonian Institution.*

Journal of the Franklin Institute. Third Series. Vol. XXXII. No. 4. Oct. 1856. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From the Institute.*

Description of New or Improved Instruments for Navigation and Astronomy, exhibited at the Paris Universal Exposition of 1855. By C. Piazzi Smyth, Astronomer Royal for Scotland, &c. Edinburgh, 1855. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

Of the Constants of Nature; Class Mammalia; by C. Babbage:—and Note sur la Machine Suedoise de MM. Schutz, pour calculer les Tables Mathématiques par la Methode des differences, et en imprimer les resultats sur des planches stéréotypes: par M. Charles Babbage. (Comptes Rendus Tome XLI.) 4to.—*From the Author.*

Neue Näherungsweise Auflösung der Keplerschen Aufgabe: von Prof. Grunert in Greifswald. Wien, 1856. 8vo.—*From the Author.*

The American Journal of the Medical Sciences. No. LXIV. Oct. 1856. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Dr. Isaac Hays, Editor.*

The Medical News and Library. Vol. XIV. No. 166. Philadelphia. 8vo.—*From Blanchard & Lea.*

Mr. Dubois laid upon the table a Turkish Treasury Note, received at the Mint from Mr. J. P. Brown, of the American

Legation at Constantinople,—and made a communication on the subject.

Mr. Brown, of the American Legation at Constantinople, has sent to the mint a specimen of the new Turkish Treasury Notes; which, from the novelty of its appearance, and of the terms of its issue (which constitute a new feature in state-financiering), may be worth exhibiting to the Philosophical Society.

The translation of the reading, which Mr. Brown has furnished, will explain the character of this security.

(At the top, and on the margin.) "A legal paper note, issued from the Imperial Privy Treasury, to circulate in the Capital, and in every other part of the Ottoman Empire, amongst all persons. Its circulation is legal; its interest shall be paid to the possessor of it without any Tax; a declaration being required of him or her at the Treasury. Conditioned, that when the holder shall die without heirs, it will fall void of value. It is a valid *Séhim* of *ten purses* (each 500 piastres); and *one purse* of interest." (That is, about 215 dollars of our money; and ten per cent. interest).

(In the centre). "An Ordinary Séhim of the Sublime Porte, payable from the proceeds of the Royal Privileges and Mines; to be paid to the claimant without any *Berat* (voucher for tax paid); its annual interest payable at the beginning of March, at the Imperial Treasury."

At the bottom are interest coupons; and Mr. Brown states that this bond is to be redeemed in six years from the date of issue. (It is in blank, without seal or signature). He adds, "they are much in demand, because of their rate of interest, and limited number. Many families collect and hold them for the revenue they afford."

It appears that, six years ago, there was a somewhat similar issue, to the extent of 12 millions of piastres, at an interest of $8\frac{1}{2}$ per cent.; with the stipulation, that upon the payment of a *bérat*, or tax, the holder of a bond might transfer the same; or, in the event of his death, it should enure to his own children, male and female; but this privilege was not to extend to a second generation, nor to any but a lineal heir.

The Society then proceeded to the stated business of the meeting, the balloting for candidates for membership.

The committee appointed on the testamentary document contained in a sealed paquet deposited with the Society by F.

André Michaux, on the 19th Nov. 1852, made a report, accompanied by the following resolution, which was read, considered and adopted.

Resolved, That the testamentary writing entrusted to the care of this Society by the late F. André Michaux, be deposited by the Treasurer with the Register of Wills, in the presence of the Chancellor of the French Consulate, for probate;—and that the Treasurer take, thereafter, all necessary measures for giving it legal operation and effect.

Prof. Frazer having taken the chair, Judge Kane, after some remarks upon the subject of procuring a suitable location for the accommodation of the Society, offered the following resolution:—

Resolved, That the Committee which was constituted to negotiate terms and make sale of the Hall of the Society, be authorized and empowered to negotiate for the purchase of a suitable property for the Society's accommodation:—

And the question on this resolution being taken, the yeas were *seven*, and the nays *one;* so the resolution was adopted.

All other business having been concluded the ballot box was opened by the presiding officer, who declared that Dr. Robert P. Harris, of Philadelphia, was duly elected a member of the Society.

Stated Meeting, November 7.

Present, twenty-one members.

Dr. Dunglison, Vice-President, in the Chair.

Dr. Robert P. Harris, a recently elected member, was introduced and took his seat.

Letters were read:—

From H. Burmeister, dated Southampton, Oct. 8; and from Robert P. Harris, dated Philadelphia, Oct. 8, 1856, acknowledging the receipt of notice of their election as members of the Society:—